

INTERNSHIP OPPORTUNITY

Division: Wildlife Resources
Position: Watchable Wildlife Intern

Work Location: DGIF District Office, City of Chesapeake

Time Period: Spring; Summer; Fall 2019

DGIF MISSION STATEMENT

- Conserve and manage wildlife populations and habitat for the benefit of present and future generations
- Connect people to Virginia's outdoors through boating, education, fishing, hunting, trapping, wildlife viewing, and other wildlife-related activities.
- Protect people and property by promoting safe outdoor experiences and managing human-wildlife conflicts.

POSITION DESCRIPTION

The Department of Game and Inland Fisheries provides a number of unique opportunities across the Commonwealth to give Virginians and visitors experiences watching birds, butterflies and a host of other wildlife. These programs include the Richmond Falcon Cam, a web-enabled online camera highlighting a nesting pair of peregrine falcons in downtown Richmond, and the statewide Virginia Bird and Wildlife Trail, a network of 640 public and private sites across Virginia. The statewide Watchable Wildlife biologist relies heavily on volunteers, including Virginia Master Naturalist Chapters, to ensure that these programs provide quality experiences for those taking advantage of them. Assistance from volunteers and interns is needed to enhance the DGIF's capacity in this area and its desired goals. Potential duties of an intern would include:

- 1. Daily monitoring the Richmond Falcon Cam, capturing snapshots of bird activity, developing preliminary content for social media and online posts
- 2. Assisting with the Falcon Cam on-site FledgeWatch (monitoring the first flights of young peregrine falcons in downtown Richmond; dependent on nesting success of the birds)
- 3. Validating information from volunteers and site managers/owners about sites on the Virginia Bird and Wildlife Trail and updating DGIF web pages for these sites
- 4. Providing periodic communications with Virginia Bird and Wildlife Trail site owners/managers
- 5. Collaborating with Watchable Wildlife program staffs in the development and design of marketing and outreach materials for the program, especially the Virginia Bird and Wildlife Trail
- 6. Assisting with Virginia Bird and Wildlife Trail site visits to review existing sites and evaluate potential new sites for inclusion in the Trail system.
- 7. Assisting with coordination of Adopt-a-Trail volunteers and the Adopt-a-Trail volunteer program.
- 8. Other duties as needed to support the Watchable Wildlife program and projects,

Work schedule (days and times) will be determined by the supervisor and student. The intern does have the opportunity to work anytime during the week or weekends. Weekend work hours are not a requirement.

Prefer majors in Wildlife Management, Environmental Science, Biology or a related major, with demonstrated interest in marketing, communications, ecotourism, interpretation, and/or volunteer coordination.